



**Pacific Northwest Region  
Malheur National Forest  
541-575-3000  
[www.fs.usda.gov/malheur](http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur)**

# News Release

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## ***Forest prepares to implement fall prescribed burn plan***

**JOHN DAY, PRAIRIE CITY, and HINES, OR** – Fire management officials on the Malheur National Forest are evaluating conditions to begin fall prescribed burning.

As part of the Malheur National Forest's hazardous fuels reduction program, each of the three districts are preparing for landscape prescribed burning in various areas on the forest. Burns will take place over the next several months as conditions are favorable; exact days will vary depending on weather.

Prescribed burning is highly dependent on weather conditions. Conditions have to be within a narrow criteria window in order to use prescribed fire. Wind speed and direction, temperatures, relative humidity, and fuel moistures are all taken into consideration.

There is a potential for impacts to camping and hunting opportunities in several hunting units across the forest. Any road and trail closures will go into effect prior to and during burn operations which typically take 2-5 days to complete. Hunters are advised to plan ahead and avoid camping in the following designated prescribed burn areas during this 2016 hunting season.

Prescribed fires are an integral part of land management across the Malheur National Forest. Each of these burns represents many hours of planning and preparation. Specific weather and vegetative conditions must be in place in order to conduct these burns. Prescribed burns are designed to both reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires as well to restore overall health of the National Forest System lands.

Updates and maps of the proposed prescribed burns are located on InciWeb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4725/>. Additional information on prescribed burning is available on the Forest website at [www.fs.usda.gov/malheur/](http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur/) or at any forest office.

Each prescribed burn represents many years of planning and preparation to ensure they meet prescriptive conditions that allow for successful burns which provide for multiple benefits to resources. The forest works closely with the Oregon Department of Forestry in accordance with the State's Smoke Management Plans to determine when, where, and how much is burned on a daily basis. Potential smoke impacts, looking at volume of smoke, direction of spread, and mixing heights, are determined prior to each burn. All burns will be monitored until a season ending rain or snow occurs.

For more information about the Malheur National Forest's Prescribed Burn program, please contact us at 541-575-3000.

For further information on the Malheur National Forest, please visit us at [www.fs.usda.gov/malheur](http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur).



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